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Improvement in the Performance by Changing Electrode Shape in Barrier Discharge type ESP

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In general corona discharge is used in ESP (Electrostatic Precipitator). The corona discharge type ESP can remove DEP (Diesel Exhaust particles) at high collection efficiency but at low removal efficiency for NO_x and re-entrainment phenomena due to low resistivity and particle agglomeration on the electrode. Barrier discharge is effective for removal NO_x. Therefore, we are used Barrier discharge in ESP. In this paper, we investigated the plate type, punched hole type, and grid type electrode. As results, energy efficiency of particle collection becomes high with punched hole and grid type electrode than with plate type electrode. And then, punched hole type achieved high collection efficiency as comparison with plane type electrode at the same power consumption.

1. Introduction

The electrostatic precipitator (ESP) has been used extensively to decontaminate polluted gases and to clean air because of high collection efficiency. One of the major tasks of ESP applications is to increase visibility and to clean the air in the highway tunnels. The conventional ESP eliminates suspended particles traceable to diesel exhausted particle. ESP with DC corona discharge precharger little removes NO_x[1]. Therefore, we propose barrier discharge type ESP to remove particles and NO_x simultaneously. Barrier discharge is effective for removal NO_x. Barrier discharge type ESP has been investigated to remove suspended particles [2]. The aim of this study is to improve energy efficiency for particle collection and NO_x removal with several electrode shapes. This present version electrode shapes are changed from plane to punched hole, to grid pattern type. Several electrode shapes become the change of barrier discharge condition.

2. Experimental Methods

The schematic experimental system is shown in Fig.1. Particle generated by the diesel engine. The diesel exhaust gases is diluted with air in the mixing chamber, and then boosted through the duct and enter to ESP. The gases cleaned by ESP pass through the induced fan and then exhausted. The mean gas velocity in the duct is

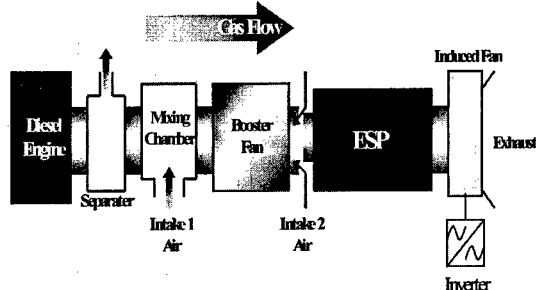


Fig.1 Schematic diagram of experimental system

1.5m/s constant in all test condition. The number density of suspended particle is measured by the particle counter (PC, RION KC-01C, measured particle size $d > 0.3\mu\text{m}$). The sampling locations are upstream and downstream of the ESP. This present version ESP is barrier discharge type. The barrier discharge type ESP electrode configuration is shown in Fig.2. These barrier discharge electrodes are the aluminum plate (0.5mm thick) sandwiched by two glass plates (0.5mm thick), electrode length is 45mm(aluminum), and 65mm(glass plate). In here, 3 varieties of aluminum plate electrode shapes are used as illustrated in Fig.3. The punched hole type electrode has many holes, The diameter of a hole is

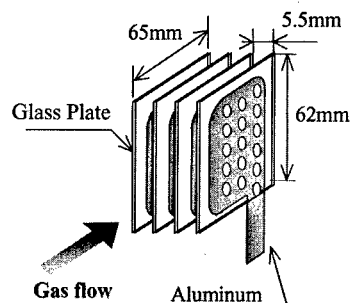


Fig.2 Electrode configuration of barrier discharge type electrostatic precipitator.

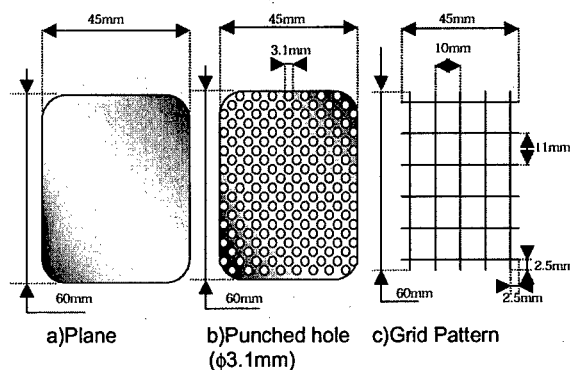


Fig.3 Test shapes of aluminum plate electrode

3.1mm. The grid pattern type electrode consists of tungsten wire with 0.26mm diameter, these wires are laid out such as grid pattern. These aluminum plate electrodes are applied high voltage (AC50Hz). The discharge power is measured by the Lissajous figure (V-Q plots) on oscilloscope.

3. Results and Discussion

Discharge current for several electrode shapes as a function of applied voltage is shown in Fig.4. At the same applied voltage, discharge current at punched hole type becomes high, discharge current at grid pattern type becomes low as compared with plane type electrode. As for grid pattern type electrode, discharge current becomes low due to decrement of the electrode area. Electric field intensity distribution as the punched hole type electrode is shown in Fig.5. This figure is analyzed with ANSYS 6.0 (Ansys Inc. Electric field analysis with a finite-element methods). The electric field intensity at edge of punched holes type electrode is 1.2 times stronger than at plane type electrode. Especially, electric field intensity around the punched

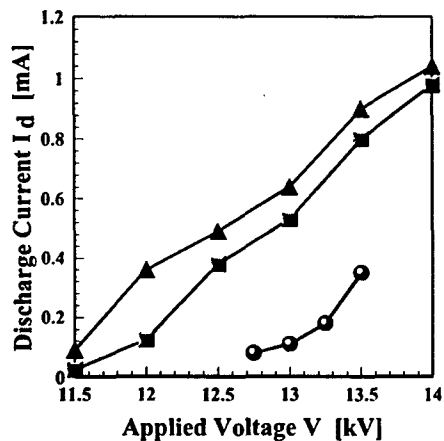


Fig.4 Discharge current as a function of applied voltage. Plots indicate electrode shapes ;
 ■:Plane type , ▲:Punched hole type,
 ●:Grid pattern type electrode.

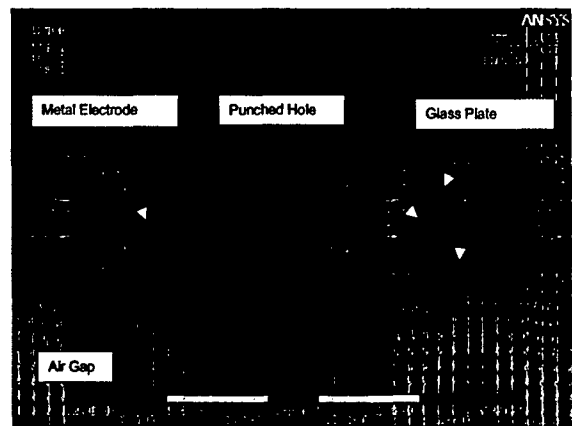


Fig.5 Electric field intensity distribution as the punched hole type electrode

hole becomes high. Hence, because of this field intensity increment, discharge current at punched hole type electrode becomes high as shown in Fig.4.

Discharge power as a function of collection efficiency is shown in Fig.6. Collection efficiencies at punched hole type and grid pattern type electrodes become high in comparison with plane electrode. Additionally, collection efficiency increases up to 95 percent with increasing discharge power at punched hole type. It has been shown that energy efficiency for particle collection is improved when deference in electric field intensity exists in barrier discharge.

4. Concluding Remarks

Energy efficiency for particle collection is tested by changing barrier discharge electrode shape. Consequently, it has been shown that energy efficiency for particle collection is improved when the difference in electric field intensity exists in barrier discharge area. Additionally, using punched hole type electrode achieved high collection efficiency as comparison with plane type electrode at the same power consumption.

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5. References

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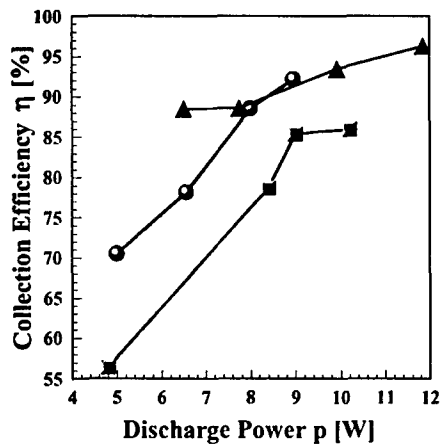


Fig.6 Collection efficiency for several electrode types as a function of discharge power.
 ■:Plane type , ▲:Punched hole type,
 ●:Grid pattern type electrode.